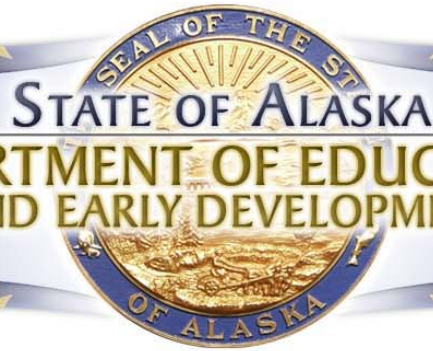


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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: **May 8, 2009**

STATE MUSEUM OPEN FOR FIRST FRIDAY

Do you wish you could see the Alaska State Museum's special summer exhibitions without the crowds of tourists? You can, since the Museum is continuing its policy of being open to the public the first Friday evening of each month into the summer. The free opening is part of the "First Friday" art walk, a popular Juneau event. The museum will be open until 7 p.m. this Friday, June 5, and is free beginning at 4:30 p.m. This is a chance for local residents to experience the museum's two major temporary summer exhibitions, as well as a newly installed permanent science display.

"Yuungnaqpiallerput (The Way We Genuinely Live): Masterworks of Yup'ik Science and Survival," explores the ways traditional Eskimo culture developed tools and technology for living in the harsh sub-arctic environment of western Alaska. The other temporary exhibit, "Self Constructions," presents recent contemporary artworks by Da-ka-xeen Mehner, an artist of southeast Alaskan Tlingit ancestry.

"Science on a Sphere" is a new permanent installation presented with the support of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The dramatic, room-size exhibit features a 6-foot diameter suspended globe upon which can be projected various kinds of information about the Earth and solar system.

The temporary exhibitions will be on display until October. For further information please call the museum at 465-2901.

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www.museums.state.ak.us

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